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OGC 67-0370

27 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Representative Charles Vanik Question
to IRS Re CIA Use of Foundations

In a letter to IRS dated 23 February, Representative Vanik said:

"It has recently been discovered that numerous tax-exempt foundations were utilized by CIA to operate as CIA conduits for CIA funds to various student organizations, religious groups, labor organizations, and the press.

"Can you assure me that tax-exempt status was not provided or extended to any foundation or trust in consideration or inducement for the conduct of such operations?"

On 27 February Commissioner Cohen replied to Representative Vanik as follows:

"This is in response to your letter to me dated February 23 regarding 'Tax-exempt Foundations Utilized by CIA to Operate as Conduits for CIA.'

"We can assure you, Mr. Vanik, that tax-exempt status was not extended to any of these organizations in consideration for or as an inducement for CIA operations."

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Assistant General Counsel

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